CLICK
カタ
CLICK
カタ
CLICK
カタ...
I'VE BEEN WRITING A LOT LATELY.
THERE'S EVEN AN A/C UNIT IN THE LIVING ROOM, SO MY SWEAT DOESN'T MAKE MY FINGERS SLIP.
A LOT HAS CHANGED SINCE I STARTED WRITING.
LATELY...

PEEK
そぉ…
TWITCH TWITCH
びくびく
RIT-CHAN HAS BEEN ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY, AND IT'S REALLY AMUSING.
TURN TURN
きょろきょろ
おかえり
WELCOME BACK.
JUMP
ぴょん!!
USA-KUN'S NOT HOME YET.
NO!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT USA-KUN!
YOU REMIND ME OF MAYUMI-SAN THAT OTHER TIME.
いつぞやの麻弓さんみたい
HER JAPANESE IS BROKEN.
PANT PANT
はぁはぁ
OH, RIGHT.
LOOK AT THIS.

WHACK
SO AMUSING.
WHACK
WE'RE HOME.
WELL, THAT'S AN USUAL PAIRING.
AAAAAAHHH!
MY COMPUTER'S WALLPAPER.
THE PIERCING BITTER-SWEETNESS OF NEVER GETTING WHAT YOU WANT IN THE PAST OR THE FUTURE IS TOO MUCH TO BEAR...
YOU'VE GOT A TIGHT GRIP.
DID MAYUMI-SAN TEACH YOU?
ERASE IT!
STRANGLE STRANGLE
ABOUT NEXT SATURDAY...
WELCOME HOME.

THE STAR MINES ARE SO PRETTY.
IT'S NICE THAT THEY SHOOT OFF SO MANY FIREWORKS.

去年は用事があって全員いなかったし
LAST YEAR, WE WEREN'T ALL HERE BECAUSE PEOPLE HAD THINGS TO DO.
THERE'S GOING TO BE A FIREWORKS DISPLAY NEARBY.
WHY DON'T WE ALL GO TOGETHER THIS YEAR?
GREAT IDEA!
I'LL SECURE US A SPOT BY THE RIVER.

COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY WERE REQUESTING TITLES FOR THIS YEAR'S STAR MINE.
OR BE COLOR COORDINATED.
THEY TEND TO FOLLOW A THEME

I'M HOME.
JUMP ぴくー

...
OR "KILL AS MANY (COUPLES) AS THERE ARE STARS."
LIKE "WISH UPON A STAR."

HEY.
SHE'S PRETENDING TO BE ABSORBED IN HER BOOK.
I'M GLAD SHE'S PAYING ATTENTION TO ME...
...BUT IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, SHE'LL RUN AWAY.
I'LL SEE HOW THINGS GO...
USA-KUN!
I'M GOING TO MY ROOM.
部屋いくっ
SENPAI, TODAY...
WELCOME HOME.
...
ぱっ
TURN
...
SILENCE

PRETENDING TO READ
WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT...
...GOING TO SATURDAY'S FIREWORKS DISPLAY.
FIRE-WORKS...
PRETENDING TO READ
COME TO THINK OF IT,
I WAS TALK-ING ABOUT GOING WITH TAGAMI AND ANDO...
WHAT?!
PRETENDING TO READ

BLUSH
IF...
IF YOU HAVE PLANS, IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
STAND
YEAH!
I GUESS WE'LL GO WITHOUT USA-KUN!
DASH
SENPAI!
UGH
THE GIRLS' AREA

I CAN STILL SAY NO TO TAGAMI AND THE GUYS.
LET'S... GO SEE THE FIREWORKS TOGETHER.
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?!
NOD NOD
WHOA.
SO CUTE...
AFTER ALL, やっぱり
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE SLIGHTEST BIT CUTE.
EEK!
GRUDGE
YOUR CURSES CAN'T GET ME DOWN ANYMORE!

I'LL PURSUE HER AT MY OWN PACE.
YOU...
IT MIGHT ALREADY...
...BE TIME FOR ME TO SET OFF...
...MY OWN FIREWORKS.
WHERE ARE MAYUMI-SAN AND THE OTHERS?
SIGN: BUTTERED POTATOES, FRIED SQUID, TAKOYAKI
THEY WENT TO BUY SAKE AND SNACKS.

BOOM
ドォン
THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL...
ドォン
BOOM
SENPAI IS...
...FAR MORE BEAUTIFUL.
SENPAI...

ドオーン
BOOM
やんCHEER
NOTH-ING!
WHAT?
DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?
I MAY BE TIMID.
BUT FIRE-WORKS, PLEASE...
SMILE ON ME.

IF ANYTHING LIKE THAT HAPPENS, I'LL JAM BOTTLE ROCKETS UP YOUR *BEEP* AND *BEEP* AND SEND YOU TO YOUR GRAVE IN ALL KINDS OF WAYS.
YOUR FANTASY WAS SO LONG!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING "TIMID?" DON'T YOU MEAN "GOOD-FOR-NOTHING?" I BET THE FIREWORKS ARE SNEERING AT YOU.
YOUR STAR MINE'S TITLE MUST BE "GREAT DAY FOR BALL-BREAKING."
PLEASE STOP GETTING MAD OVER THINGS YOU IMAGINED IN ONE-WOMAN WRESTLING MATCHES!
DON'T SAY "WRESTLING MATCHES!"

BUT IT'S SUCH A BITTERSWEET FANTASY.
IT'S STANDARD. 定番よね♡
I LIKE IT.
FOR EXAMPLE, AFTER THIS...
NOTHING! なーんでも！
REALLY

OH.
I WAS SURPRISED... びっくりした…
I MUST'VE MISHEARD HIM, I GUESS.
AAAAAHHH! THIS IS LIKE SOME KIND OF HIT DRAMA ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE!
SALLY... やすり…
ONE IN WHICH THE COUPLE GETS KILLED!
THE SECOND YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT, IT BECOMES A HORROR FILM.

IF IT WERE ME
WHILE YOU'RE WALKING DOWN A CROWDED LINE OF STALLS,
YOU HOLD HANDS WITHOUT THINKING WHEN YOU NEARLY BECOME SEPARATED.
WHAT A GREAT CLICHÉ!
ISN'T THAT YOU BEING ESCORTED AWAY?
WAIT, WAIT!
WHEN OUR FANTASIES ARE TOO GOOD, IT MAKES LIFE SEEM LIKE A PALE IMITATION,
IT JUST DOES! なんとなく!!
OR LIKE IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN!
STOP!
MY MAIDENLY BRAIN IS OPERATING AT FULL FORCE!
WHY...
. WOULD YOU INVITE ME?
AREN'T YOU GOING WITH THE RESIDENTS OF THE KAWAI COMPLEX?

I WON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANY-MORE.
MAYUMI-SAN IS BEING WEIRD AND FANNING THE FLAMES, TOO.
AND NOW THEY WANT TO GO TO A FIREWORKS DISPLAY.
YOU THINK FIREWORKS DISPLAYS ARE SPECIAL? YOU'RE A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL, AFTER ALL.
PLEASE HELP ME.
I WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY, TOO.
HAYASHI-SAN, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I CAN ASK FOR HELP WITH THIS.
SINCE WHEN HAVE WE BEEN FRIENDS?
DOOM
がーん

BEEP
WAIT—
BUT—
YOU'RE...
WHAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT. SORRY.
I'M OLDER, TOO.
AND OUR RELATION-SHIP IS, YOU KNOW.
SORRY.
RRRRR
JUMP
BEEP
HELL—
LISTEN TO ME, GODDAMMIT! STOP ENDING THINGS WITHOUT HAVING A REAL CONVERSATION!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOUR WEIRD TRAINS OF THOUGHT HAVE CAUSED ME?
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?!

BUT YOU WERE BEING MEAN.
THAT WAS... WELL, SORRY.
BUT ISN'T IT TRUE?
YOU REALLY ARE A PAIN IN THE BUTT AND HAVE A WEIRD WAY OF THINKING.
I CAN'T JUST IGNORE YOU...
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL.
IF WE'RE NOT FRIENDS...
YOU'RE BEING PATRON-IZING...
WHAT?
...THEN WHAT ARE WE?
THEN YOU'LL GO TO THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY WITH—
BUT I'M NOT GOING!

WHY NOT?!
YOU'VE BEEN PUSHING A LOT OF PEOPLE AROUND.
?
MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GET PUSHED AROUND.
I'LL LISTEN TO ANYTHING YOU HAVE TO SAY,
SO HAVE FUN WITH YOUR DITHERING, RITSU-SENPAI!
YOU'RE...
YOU'RE ENJOYING THIS, AREN'T YOU?!
そんなの THAT'S
OF COURSE.
A FRIEND WOULDN'T DO THAT!
I TOLD YOU, WE'RE NOT.
HAHAHA おはは